

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 01654 122022Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 DHA-02 AID-05 IGA-02

TRSE-00 /073 W

-----130422Z 042142 /63

R 121825Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2852

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 1654

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION POLITICIAN SUPPORTS BRAY STATEMENT ON NICARAGUA

SUMMARY: OPPOSITION LEADER WELCOMES BRAY STATEMENT, OPPOSES CUTTING OFF MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND FORESEES INCREASED POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF OPPOSITION DIRECTED TOWARD 1981 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

1. DR. EMILIO ALVAREZ MONTALVAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF CONSERVATIVE PARTY, PRESENTLY LEADER OF DISSIDENT CONSERVATIVE GROUP AND LONG-TIME ANTI-SOMOZA POLITICIAN, ASKED FOR MEETING WITH CHARGE THIS MORNING. ALVAREZ SAID THAT THIS WAS FIRST TIME IN TWENTY YEARS HE HAD COME TO EMBASSY BUT THAT HE AND HIS FOLLOWERS WERE SO FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BRAY'S APRIL 5 STATEMENT TO LONG SUBCOMMITTEE THAT HE WANTED TO COME AND EXPRESS HIS SATISFACTION PERSONALLY. HE SAID THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OVER TWENTY YEARS HE SAW A BALANCED AND OBJECTIVE REPORT ON NICARAGUA BY A USG OFFICIAL. ALVAREZ ALSO SAID THAT OF THE TWO POLICY ALTERNATIVES OFFERED BY BRAY TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE HE AND HIS GROUP STRONGLY FAVORED THAT OF HOLDING UP ASSISTANCE WHILE SEEING WHETHER OR NOT HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IMPROVED IN NICARAGUA. HE SAID THAT A CONGRESSIONAL CUT-OFF OF ASSISTANCE WOULD ELIMINATE THE ABILITY OF THE U.S.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 01654 122022Z

TO INFLUENCE EVENTS HERE. ALVAREZ SAID THAT FOR FORTY YEARS THE VARIOUS SOMOZA GOVERNMENTS HAVE ACTED AS THOUGH THEY HAD TYE USG IN THEIR POCKETS AND COULD DO ANYTHING THEY WANTED WITH IMPUNITY AND STILL RECEIVE SUPPORT. THE BRAY STATEMENT, HE SAID, WAS A DECLARATION THAT THE USG IS NO LONGER IN SOMOZA'S POCKET, BUT WILL BW PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE GON'S BEHAVIOR.

2. ALVAREZ ALSO SAID THAT NICARAGUANS MUST SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF NICARAGUA, IF NOT IN THEIR ENTIRETY AT LEAST NINETY PERCENT SO. HE SAID THAT THE BRAY STATEMENT PROVIDED THE SUPPLEMENTAL TEN PERCENT THAT THE OPPOSITION HAS BEEN LOOKING FOR SO LONG. HE SAID THAT HE EXPECTED AN AWAKENING AND INCREASED ACTIVITY BY THE VARIOUS GROUPS IN OPPOSITION TO SOMOZA. HE SAID THAT ANY SUCH INCREASE IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY MUST BE GEARED TOWARD FREE NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN 1981. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE 1978 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS ALVAREZ SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S MAINTENANCE OF THE STATE OF SIEGE AND ACCOMPANYING CENSORSHIP TENDED TO DISCOURAGE INTEREST IN AND EVENTUAL PARTICIPATION IN THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS. HE SAID THAT HOLDING THE STATE OF SIEGE IN EFFECT WOULD PROBABLY LEAD TO ABSTENTION FROM THE 1978 ELECTIONS BY THE OPPOSITION AND THAT THIS WAS PROBABLY PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN.

3. ALVAREZ ADDED THAT PRESIDENT SOMOZA HAD CALLED AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF HIS CABINET ON HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 7, TO DISCUSS THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION AND DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING A BIPARTISAN COMMISSION TO WASHINGTON TO MEET WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN ON THE QUESTION OF US-NICARAGUAN RELATIONS. CONSERVATIVE PARTY PRESIDENT RENE SANDINO TOLD EMBOFF THAT NO SUCH PROPOSAL HAS BEEN MADE TO DATE BUT THAT HIS PARTY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CONSIDERING ONE IF IT SHOULD BE FORTHCOMING.
RUBENSTEIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OPPOSITION PARTIES, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANAGU01654
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770127-0539
Format: TEL
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770466/aaaacflx.tel
Line Count: 89
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8846bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2833833
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPPOSITION POLITICIAN SUPPORTS BRAY STATEMENT ON NICARAGUA SUMMARY: OPPOSITION LEADER WELCOMES BRAY STATEMENT, OPPOSES CUTTING OFF MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND FORESEES INCREASE
TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, NU, (ALVAREZ MONTALVAN, EMILIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8846bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009